

Serial No. 10/690,811

Attorney Docket No. 24-009-TB

LISTING OF CLAIMS**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****MAY 06 2008**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please cancel claims 3, 6 and 13, amend claims 1, 7 and 12 and add new claims 14 – 28 as follows.

1. (Currently amended) An orally administered agent free of a bioadhesive layer, comprising:

~~a drug-containing an edible polymer layer and a water-swellable gel-forming layer, containing a drug;~~

a first water-swellable gel-forming layer provided on one side of the drug-containing layer either directly or via an intermediate layer, the first water-swellable gel-forming layer not containing the drug;

a second water-swellable gel-forming layer provided on the other side of the drug-containing layer either directly or via an intermediate layer, the second water-swellable gel-forming layer not containing the drug, wherein

wherein said water-swellable gel-forming layer is the first water-swellable gel-forming layer and the second water-swellable gel-forming layer are provided as [[an]] outermost layer layers of said orally administered agent to form a mask for at least one of a taste and a smell of the drug,

the first water-swellable gel-forming layer and the second water-swellable gel-forming layer contain a water-swellable gel-forming agent and a film-forming agent that, together with the edible polymer layer, facilitate a digestive tract release of the drug, and

the content of the water-swellable gel-forming agent in the first water-swellable gel-

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forming layer or the second water-swellaible gel-forming layer is 15 to 70 wt%, and the content of the film-forming agent in the first water-swellaible gel-forming layer or the second water-swellaible gel-forming layer is 30 to 85wt%.

~~the drug of the drug-containing layer is released in a digestive tract.~~

2. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said orally administered agent is a film-shaped preparation.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 3, wherein said water-swellaible gel-forming agent is a cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer, and said film-forming agent is a polyvinyl alcohol.

5. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 4, wherein said cross-linked carboxyvinyl polymer is a carboxyvinyl polymer cross-linked by a polyvalent metal compound.

6. (Canceled).

7. (Currently amended) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said water-swellaible gel-forming ~~layer~~ layers can mask the taste and/or smell of a drug contained in said drug-containing layer.

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8. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 1, wherein said drug-containing layer contains an edible polymer as a base.

9. (Original) The orally administered agent according to claim 8, wherein said edible polymer is cellulose and/or a cellulose derivative.

10. (Previously presented) The orally administered agent according to claim 8, wherein the content of said edible polymer in said drug-containing layer is at least 20 wt%.

11. (Withdrawn) An orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex comprising the orally administered agent according to any one of claims 1 to 10, and a supporting substrate that supports the orally administered agent, wherein said orally administered agent is provided on said supporting substrate either directly or via an intermediate layer.

12. (Withdrawn and currently amended) The orally administered agent/supporting substrate complex according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 11, wherein said supporting substrate has a gripping part and a mouth-inserting part, and said orally administered agent is provided on said mouth-inserting part.

13. (Canceled)

14. (New) The orally administered agent of claim 1, wherein the edible polymer layer comprises one of a stomach-soluble polymer and an intestine-soluble polymer.

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15. (New) The orally administered agent of claim 14, wherein the edible polymer comprises one of a cellulose and a cellulose derivative.

16. (New) The orally administered agent of claim 1, wherein the water-swellaible gel-forming agent contained in the first water-swellaible gel-forming layer and the second water-swellaible gel-forming layer comprises a parastalsis-promoting agent.

17. (New) An orally administered agent, comprising:
a plurality of drug-containing layers; and
a water-swellaible gel-forming layer, wherein
the multiple drug-containing layers are heat-sealed via an intermediate layer which includes a heat-sealing adhesive, and
the water-swellaible gel-forming layer is provided as an outermost layer of the orally administered agent.

18. (New) The orally administered agent according to claim 17, wherein the heat-sealing adhesive is one of a homopolymer of vinyl acetate and a copolymer between vinyl acetate and vinyl pyrrolidone.

19. (New) The orally administered agent according to claim 17, wherein the orally administered agent is free of a bioadhesive layer.

20. (New) The orally administered agent according to claim 17, wherein a drug in the drug-containing layers is released in a stomach or an intestine.

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21. (New) The orally administered agent according to claim 17, wherein the orally administered agent is a film-shaped preparation.